



MINNIE A. HARRISON
RFD 1 Box 423, Reva, VA 22735

April 22, 1999

7957 '99 APR 27 A8:53

Mr. Lyle D. Jaffe,
Dockets Management FDA/DHHS
12420 Parklawn DR. Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Sir:

I am sure you and your organization must be aware of the procedures used by commercial chicken and egg producers. I need not go into the grizzly details, except to say that I have been hearing reports of this unspeakably cruel business for a long time, years, in fact, and it is time it is stopped, regardless of what reasons that could and would be conjured up to declare its necessity to continue. But according to most recent reports - with graphic pictures - of hens forced to be egg producing machines, as if they were inanimate objects with no feelings, I ask you that you support a ban or do all within your power to stop the forced molting of laying hens (docket 98P-0203(CP)). According to reports, forced molting is a major cause of salmonella poisoning in eggs and it weakens birds' immune systems with resulting bone breaks.

I am aware of and have personally seen some methods of poultry and egg production of so-called commercial "farms", the details of which I will not burden you here. Chickens are live, feeling animals of flesh and blood that experience pain and suffering when in an unnatural environment, just the same as our pets and our fellow human beings.

There are established animal welfare and cruelty laws that when broken can result in misdemeanors and felonies with resulting punishment thereof. These laws should cover ALL living animals, large or small, pets, livestock and chickens. I am aware of reports of unlawful cruel methods of slaughtering cattle, hogs and other meat-producing animals. Therefore, it must be that the laws are not enforced.

Let us use our precious lands to naturally produce our food, rather than for pleasure palacies, hotels, golf courses, and the like. Greater pleasure can be gained from quiet communion with nature as God made it.

Respectfully yours,

Copy to Dr. Ron De Haven
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

Minnie A. Harrison

98P-0203

C1208



MINNIE A. HARRISON
RFD 1 Box 423, Reva, VA 22735



Mr. Lyle D. Jaffe,
Dockets Management,
FDA/DHHS, 12420 Parklawn Dr. Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

